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1962/06/07

PRIME MINISTER

PM/62/80

Laos

You will have seen the Minister of Defence's minute of June 6 covering a Chiefs of Staff paper about the possibilities open to us in Laos if things go wrong. I think this paper sets out the possible courses of action very clearly and we may have to take an awkward decision at some stage.

2. After we have cleared our own minds we must talk to the Americans. The timing of our talks with the Americans will depend on developments in Laos itself but we need to be ready. I think therefore that we ought to take this in the Defence Committee, or perhaps a more restricted Ministerial meeting, as soon as possible after Whitsun.

This can scarcely be before June 25. P.O.Z

3. I am sending a copy of this minute to the Minister of Defence.

HM

7/6

June 7, 1962

SECRET